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Introducing New Voices

Suzanna Sherry

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INTRODUCING *NEW VOICES*

Suzanna Sherry[†]

Have you ever read a truly excellent student paper and thought to yourself that it was better than a lot of the law review articles you've read recently? "You ought to publish that paper," you tell the student. Easier said than done. Students rarely have the time to repackage last semester's research for submission to law reviews. Even if they do, law reviews are loathe to publish work submitted by students. Publication in a peer-reviewed journal is unlikelier still.

Enter *New Voices*. Our best students are the next generation of scholars, the academic farm team as it were. If we can identify and nurture them early, perhaps they will produce better scholarship down the road. And reading their work can invigorate our own, by allowing us to see things in a fresh new light. There's nothing like a neophyte for pointing out the emperor's lack of clothes or rekindling the wonder of ideas that have begun to seem trite or commonplace. *New Voices* will collect and publish these early gems.

Here's how it works: When you come across a student paper (whether for a seminar, a research project, or whatever) that you think deserves publication, send it, preferably in Word, to the *New Voices* editor(s).¹ Please be sure to get the student's permission first, and include the student's contact information as well as your own. Please also include a few words of your own – anything from a paragraph to a couple of pages – explaining why the piece is worth reading, and, if necessary, any background information you think

[†] Herman O. Loewenstein Professor of Law, Vanderbilt University.

¹ Currently, that's just me: Suzanna Sherry, Vanderbilt University Law School, new.voices@vanderbilt.edu.

valuable to the reader. For examples of both types of explanations, see the first issue, which follows this introduction. We'll let both you and the student know as quickly as possible whether we can publish the paper (along with your explanation as a preface). How quickly depends on how inundated we are with submissions, something that is impossible to predict right now.

Shorter student papers are preferred; if necessary, the *New Voices* editorial team² will excerpt the meat of the paper. The editorial team will also edit the paper and the preface (lightly) as needed, subject, of course, to permission of the respective authors.

And there it is. The next time you read a student paper that ought to be published, you can do something about it. Let the submissions begin!

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² See note 1, *supra*. *New Voices* also has one student senior editor. I might add other faculty or students to the team.